

Basis \leadsto Bases

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singular plural

The following are equivalent:

- ⑤ Every vector in V can be expressed uniquely as a linear combination in B .

pf: Let $B \subseteq V$ for some vector space V . Assume $B = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\}$

(2) \Rightarrow (5): Suppose B is lin. ind and spans V .

Some $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R}$. Assume there is another

linear combination $u = c_1' b_1 + c_2' b_2 + \dots + c_n' b_n$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} 0_v &= u - u = (c_1 b_1 + c_2 b_2 + \dots + c_n b_n) - (c_1' b_1 + c_2' b_2 + \dots + c_n' b_n) \\ &= (c_1 - c_1') b_1 + (c_2 - c_2') b_2 + \dots + (c_n - c_n') b_n. \end{aligned}$$

Because B is linearly independent, we must have

$$c_1 - c_1' = c_2 - c_2' = \dots = c_n - c_n' = 0$$

Thus $c_i - c_i' = 0$ for all i , so $c_i = c_i'$ for all i .

Hence these are the same linear combination of B ,

So we have a unique expression of u as a lin. comb.

⑤ \Rightarrow ②: Assume every vector $u \in V$ can be expressed uniquely as a linear combination of vectors in B .

Hence for any $u \in V$ there are coefficients

$$c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R} \text{ s.t. } u = c_1 b_1 + c_2 b_2 + \dots + c_n b_n \in \text{span}(B)$$

$$\text{Hence } V \subseteq \text{span}(B) \subseteq V, \text{ so } \text{span}(B) = V.$$

Note $0_v \in V$, so there is a unique linear combination of vectors in B yielding 0_v , namely

$$0_v = c_1 b_1 + c_2 b_2 + \dots + c_n b_n. \quad \text{On the other hand,}$$

$$0_v = \underline{0b_1 + 0b_2 + \dots + 0b_n}, \text{ so EVERY } 0_v \text{ linear}$$

combination in B is the trivial combination. Hence

B is lin indep by definition.



Point: Given a vector $u \in V$ and two bases, B and B' , we can compare their "representations" of u .
i.e. we can uniquely represent u as a vector in \mathbb{R}^n for each of these bases, and compare...

Notation: $[u]_B = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix}$ when $u = c_1 b_1 + c_2 b_2 + \dots + c_n b_n$.

Ex: Let $B = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ and $u = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$.

B is a basis of \mathbb{R}^2 (check!).

To calculate $[u]_B$ we solve:

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 3 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right] \rightsquigarrow \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 0 & -4 & -3 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right] \rightsquigarrow \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{3}{4} \end{array} \right] \rightsquigarrow \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & \frac{5}{4} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{3}{4} \end{array} \right] \quad \downarrow$$

\therefore we've calculated coefficients $c_1 = \frac{5}{4}$ and $c_2 = \frac{3}{4}$ i.e.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{5}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{3}{4} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{check directly!})$$

$$\therefore [u]_B = \begin{bmatrix} 5/4 \\ 3/4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let $B' = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$. Now to compute $[u]_{B'}$:

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right] \rightsquigarrow \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right] \quad \text{so} \quad [u]_{B'} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}. \quad \square$$

Note: $[u]_B \neq [u]_{B'} \dots$

Ex: In \mathbb{R}^n , $\mathcal{E}_n = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$ and every vector

$$u \in \mathbb{R}^n \rightsquigarrow [u]_{\mathcal{E}_n} = u \quad \square$$

Idea: create new bases from old ones...

Lemma (Steinitz Exchange Lemma): If $B = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\}$ is a basis of vector space V and $u = c_1 b_1 + c_2 b_2 + \dots + c_n b_n$ has $c_i \neq 0$, then $B \setminus \{b_i\} \cup \{u\}$ is a basis of V .

Pf: Let V be a vector space and $B \subseteq V$ be a basis.

Assume $u = c_1 b_1 + c_2 b_2 + \dots + c_n b_n$ with $c_i \neq 0$.

(WTS: $B \setminus \{b_i\} \cup \{u\} = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_{i-1}, u, b_{i+1}, \dots, b_n\}$ is a basis)

Let $w \in V$ be arbitrary. We may express

$$w = a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + \dots + a_n b_n \text{ for some } a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}.$$

$$\text{Note } b_i = \frac{1}{c_i} (u - c_1 b_1 - c_2 b_2 - \dots - c_{i-1} b_{i-1} - c_{i+1} b_{i+1} - \dots - c_n b_n)$$

In particular,

$$\begin{aligned} w &= a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + \dots + a_i b_i + \dots + a_n b_n \\ &= \underline{a_1 b_1} + a_2 b_2 + \dots + a_i \left(\frac{1}{c_i} u - \frac{c_1}{c_i} b_1 - \dots - \frac{c_{i-1}}{c_i} b_{i-1} - \frac{c_{i+1}}{c_i} b_{i+1} - \dots - \frac{c_n}{c_i} b_n \right) \\ &\quad + \dots + a_n b_n \end{aligned}$$

$$= \left(a_1 - \frac{a_i c_1}{c_i} \right) b_1 + \left(a_2 - \frac{a_i c_2}{c_i} \right) b_2 + \dots + \frac{a_i}{c_i} u + \dots + \left(a_n - \frac{a_i c_n}{c_i} \right) b_n$$

Hence $w \in \text{span}(B \setminus \{b_i\} \cup \{u\})$; as $w \in V$ was arbitrary, so $\text{span}(B \setminus \{b_i\} \cup \{u\}) = V$.

To see $B \setminus \{b_i\} \cup \{u\}$ is lin indep, suppose

$$0_V = a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + \dots + a_i u + \dots + a_n b_n.$$

(First we'll show $a_i = 0$). Replacing $u = c_1 b_1 + \dots + c_n b_n$,

$$0_V = a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + \dots + \underbrace{a_i (c_1 b_1 + c_2 b_2 + \dots + c_n b_n)}_{\text{no } b_i} + \dots + a_n b_n.$$

$$= (a_1 + a_i c_1) b_1 + (a_2 + a_i c_2) b_2 + \dots + \underbrace{a_i c_i b_i}_{\text{no } b_i} + \dots + (a_n + a_i c_n) b_n.$$

As B is linearly independent, we have

$$[a_j + a_i c_j] = 0 \text{ for all } j \neq i \text{ and } \underline{a_i c_i} = 0$$

Because $a_i c_i = 0$, we see either $a_i = 0$ or $[c_i = 0]$.

But $c_i \neq 0$ by assumption, so $a_i = 0$. On the other hand,

$$0 = a_j + a_i c_j = a_j + 0 c_j = a_j, \text{ so all the coefficients}$$

in $a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + \dots + a_i u + \dots + a_n b_n = 0_V$ must be

$a_j = 0$; Thus $B \setminus \{b_i\} \cup \{u\}$ is lin. indep.

Hence $B \setminus \{b_i\} \cup \{u\}$ is lin. indep and spanning, so it is a basis! \square

Point: Given $u \in V$ and basis B of V ,

we can exchange u for any vector in B

w/ coeff. $c \neq 0$ in the representation of u w.r.t. B .

Cor 1: Given bases A and B of V , and vector $a \in A$, there is a vector $b \in B$ such that $A \setminus \{a\} \cup \{b\}$ is a basis of V .

Sketch: a has a representation $[a]_B$ w/

at least one nonzero coeff, so choose any

$b \in B$ w/ $[a]_B$ has nonzero component for b . \square

Cor 2: If V has a finite basis, then every basis has the same number of elements.

Sketch: Given bases A and B of V and a finite basis F of V , we proceed as follows. Take $f \in F \setminus A$. We can find $a \in A$ s.t. $F \setminus \{f\} \cup \{a\}$ is a basis. Do so until you remove all elements of $F \setminus A$.

The result is a basis contained in A . Thus, the result is itself A . At each step, the number of elements in our basis remains the same. \square